of these plans; the available resources of the Government were not at that time sufficient for operations of such magnitude; it was in fact premature to consider such comprehensive schemes.

On the 4th of August, however, when General McClellan had fulfilled the most pressing of his duties in restoring order to the army and confidence to the public mind, he prepared, with that fondness for methodical action which was one of Ms most marked characteristics, at President Lincoln's request, a memorandum on the object of the war and his general plan of operations.

His statement of the object of the war Is certainly as clear and correct as any that could be made.[1]

" The object of the present war differs from those In which nations are usually engaged mainly in this, that the purpose of ordinary war Is to conquer a peace and make a treaty on advantageous terms. In this contest it has become necessary to crush a population sufficiently numerous, Intelligent and warlike to constitute a nation. "We have not only to defeat their armed and organized forces In the field, but to display such an overwhelming strength as will convince all our antagonists, especially those of the governing, aristocratic class, of the utter impossibility of resistance. Our late reverses make this course

imperative. Had we been successful in the recent battle (Manassas) It Is possible that we might have been spared the labor and expenses of a great effort."

In other words, General McClellan said that, in his judgment, no single success, no matter how striking,

[1] McClellan's Report; 5 W. K., 6.